

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONTRE 01612 291840Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03
SS-15 NSC-05 OIC-02 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 NEA-10
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FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9488

UNCLAS MONTREAL 1612

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO

SUBJ: REPORTING ITEM: FRG-USSR DISPUTE OVER RUSSIAN LANGUAGE

RENDITION OF "FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY" IN FINAL ACT OF

DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE

1. AT THE FINAL MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE
DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON THE AUTHENTIC RUSSIAN TEXT OF THE CHICAGO
CONVENTION THERE DEVELOPED A SERIOUS DISPUTE BETWEEN THE FRG
DELEGATION AND THE USSR DELEGATION OVER HOW THE FRG WAS TO BE
DESIGNATED IN THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE IN THE COUNTRY LIST TO THE FINAL
ACT OF THE CONFERENCE. IT BECAME CLEAR THAT THE FRG DEL WAS
OPERATING UNDER STRONG INSTRUCTIONS TO INSIST, REPEAT INSIST,
THAT THE FRG BE DESIGNATED "GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF" IN ALL
THE LANGUAGES. (US DEL UNDERSTANDS THAT THIS IS REPLAY OF DISPUTE
ALREADY UNDER WAY AND CURRENTLY UNRESOLVED AT THE UN AND THAT
DEPT AWARE OF ARGUMENTS ON BOTH SIDES.) USSR VIGOROUSLY OPPOSED
FRG EFFORT CITING RUSSIAN LANGUAGE LINGUISTICAL PROBLEMS AND ICAO
PRECEDENTS. DEBATE OVER THIS ISSUE CONTINUED FOR MORE THAN 3
HOURS PRIMARILY BETWEEN USSR AND FRG DELEGATES. INITIALLY
US DEL (MCQUADE) AND OTHERS OFFERED CAUTIOUS SUPPORT TO FRG
IN MANEUVERING TOWARD SOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM BUT WHEN IT BECAME
CLEAR THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE FRG WAS DETERMINED TO FORCE
CONFRONTATION, SUPPORT DROPPED AWAY AND DELS WORKED TO FIND
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PAGE 02 MONTRE 01612 291840Z

COMPROMISE SOLUTION. A SOLUTION WAS AGREED TO ONLY AFTER AN
UNSCHEDULED HALF HOUR RECESS DURING WHICH THE PRESIDENT OF THE
COUNCIL (KOTAITE) WAS ASKED TO COME TO THE CONFERENCE TO HELP
NEGOTIATE A COMPROMISE. DR. KOTAITE PROPOSED THAT SIGNATURE
LIST BE IN ENGLISH ONLY WITH THE EXPRESS UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS
COURSE NOT PREJUDICE THE POSITION OF EITHER SIDE IN THIS DISPUTE.
(THERE IS AMPLE RECENT PRECEDENT IN ICAO FOR AN ENGLISH ONLY

SIGNATURE LIST TO A MULTILANGUAGE TEXT.) ON THIS UNDERSTANDING,
FRG WITHDREW ITS INSISTANCE AND THE MATTER WAS RESOLVED FOR
THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE.

2. FYI - IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS SAME ISSUE WILL ARISE IN
THE PLENARY OF THE ASSEMBLY WHEN THE STATES LIST FOR ASSESSMENTS
IS TAKEN UP. END FYI.
HARPER

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Message Attributes

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